

Certain activities in navigable waters are exempt from needing a permit under chapter 30, Wisconsin Statutes. Using this checklist, you can determine if your project qualifies for an exemption.

Your proposed **manual dredging** is eligible for an exemption if your project will meet all the following conditions:

- ☐ The dredging operation meets the definition of “manual dredging”, meaning the removal or disturbance of bottom material by hand or using a hand-held device without the aid of external or auxiliary power.
- ☐ The dredging may not be located in an area of special natural resource interest (ASNRI), where there are public rights features (PRF), or in perennial tributaries to trout streams - see the Designated Waters Search on DNR’s website to determine if your waterway is an ASNRI, PRF or has another special designation.
- ☐ For each riparian property, the amount of bottom material dredged from a specific waterbody may not exceed 100 square feet in surface area and one foot in depth in a calendar year.
- ☐ The dredged material will not contain any hazardous substance as defined in NR 345.03(7), Wis. Adm. Code.
- ☐ Erosion control measures shall meet or exceed the technical standards for erosion control approved by DNR under subchapter V of NR 151, Wis. Adm. Code. Any area where topsoil is exposed during construction shall be immediately seeded and mulched or ripped to stabilize disturbed areas and prevent soils from being eroded and washed into the waterway.

Note: These standards can be found at the following website:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/water/wm/nps/stormwaterr.techstds.htm>

- ☐ The dredged material may not be temporarily or permanently placed in a wetland, floodway or below the ordinary high water mark of a navigable waterway.
- ☐ Mechanical equipment may not be operated below the ordinary high water mark or on the bed of a navigable waterway.
- ☐ The applicant is the riparian owner or has permission of the riparian owner to remove bottom material.

Note: When the state is the riparian property owner, the requirements of ch. NR 45 shall be met.

If your project does not meet all of these conditions, submit a permit application to the Department.

If you have any questions about whether you meet these conditions, you may request an Exemption Determination from DNR. Obtain Form 3500-107, “Chapter 30 Exemption Determination Request” from a DNR service center, or download it from our website at www.dnr.wi.gov under the topic “Waterway and Wetland Permits.” Complete the form and submit it to the DNR office identified on the form.